RECENT EVENTS

Forestry Corporation disestablished

After three and a half years managing the Crown’s forestry assets under the State Owned Enterprise Act the New Zealand Forestry Corporation was disestablished. During its existence it sold 246,706 ha of forest.

From December 1, 1990 the management of those forests which the Crown has decided meanwhile to retain in public ownership will be by three distinct organisations, formed initially under the Corporation as a shell. The new organisations are:

Bay of Plenty Forests (165,300 ha)
Forestry Corporation of New Zealand Ltd
Chairman: Mr C.J. Fernyhough
Chief Executive: Mr Tim Cullinane
20 Pekaki Street, Rotorua
Phone (073) 479-012, Fax (073) 479-103

West Coast Forests (21,400 ha)
Timberlands West Coast Ltd
Chairman: Mr Rex Loach
Chief Executive: Mr David Hillard
105 Tainui Street, Greymouth
Phone (027) 80-113, Fax (027) 80-374

All Remaining Forests (363,600 ha)
New Zealand Timberlands Ltd
Chairman: Mr Graham Scott (Alternate Mrs M. Goddard)
Chief Executive: Mr Mark Ford
Mayfair House, 44-52 The Terrace, Wellington
Phone (04) 710-20, Fax (04) 711-231

Maximising forest returns is major aim of new State Owned Enterprise

The new State Owned Enterprise formed to manage seven Bay of Plenty forests, the Waipa Sawmill and the export division of the former Forestry Corporation has emerged as a major new force in the timber industry.

Forestry Corporation of New Zealand Ltd starts in business with a turnover of more than $200 million, more than half of which is in log sales overseas.

The new Chief Executive is Tim Cullinane, formerly Managing Director of ICL Computers International Limited. He is quick to dispel any impression that the new enterprise is merely a temporary guardian of unsold State forests, shepherding log sales until a buyer can be found for the forests.

"Forestry Corporation is here for the long haul," he told NZ Forestry. "Our task is all encompassing, from the planting, replanting and management of the forests in our care, to making decisions on New Zealand processing operations, and on domestic and overseas sales.

"We have not been formed to cash in on an existing resource but to ensure that the maximum value is achieved, on a continuing basis, for a renewable resource.”

A share float to the New Zealand public is already being talked about.

Mr Cullinane says the country must be realistic in the popular call for further processing of timber in New Zealand, rather than the exporting of logs.